



COMMUNITY UPDATE

École Sage Creek School

May 2018

Since our last [Community Update](#) in February and our [Information Evening](#) in January, École Sage Creek School continues to be a top priority for the School Board and its senior administration.

We have

- continued our dialogue with the community and government
- shared our thinking about the needs of the Sage Creek community with the community and government
- listened to parents' and government's concerns and suggestions, and
- integrated parents' and government's suggestions into our planning.

As a result of that ongoing dialogue and planning, I, alongside members of the senior administration team and Board, met with the parent community on Monday, May 14, 2018 to provide an update of the journey and share our latest thinking about managing growth and overcrowding at the school in the 2019-2020 school year and beyond.

Ultimately, the solution we all want for the Sage Creek community is a second school in the shortest achievable timeline.

The following [presentation](#) was shared and provided context to an open and constructive dialogue with the parents in attendance. I encourage parents to consult the presentation and call or email the Board Office for clarification and/or to share their thoughts. I welcome and look forward to continued dialogue with the parent community.

You will note in the presentation that nothing is changing to our planning for the 2018-2019 school year. All students in Kindergarten to Grade 8 (K-8) will be accommodated in the school.

However, starting in the 2019-2020 school year and continuing until the 2022-2023 school year, we will address significant growth in the Sage Creek Community and substantial overcrowding at the school by having the students in Grades 7 and 8 transition to a middle school program at Collège Béliveau in the French Immersion program and Windsor Park Collegiate in the English program. We remain open to your feedback about the transition for students in Grades 7 and 8. At our information evening on May 14, parents had many questions and observations about the proposed shift starting in 2019. The reason for the important change in our planning to address significant growth and overcrowding is that government has made it clear to us that it does not want to invest finite taxpayer dollars in temporary infrastructure (relocatable classrooms). It would rather focus on sustainable investments to build permanent infrastructure (schools). This is a laudable approach to government investments and LRSD will do its part to support the Government's efforts.

Given we will not increase the spaces at the school by adding 4 relocatable classrooms, we will not be able to accommodate the number of kindergarten students we had hoped to welcome in the interim period while we wait to have a second school in Sage Creek open its doors. Without relocatable classrooms, we would welcome too few kindergarten students. We could not even guarantee that younger siblings of current families would all be accepted. For that reason, instead of transporting over 80, four and five-year-old students to alternate kindergarten sites, we believe it to be more sensible to transport students in Grades 7 and 8. Transportation will be provided by the division at no cost to parents.

To summarize, without the possibility of adding relocatable classrooms to the school, the new strategy will be to temporarily reconfigure École Sage Creek School to a Grades K-6 configuration from 2019 to 2022. The evidence provided in the [presentation](#) demonstrates that **by 2022** over 1,000 (and growing) K-8 school-aged children living in the Sage Creek Community will be deserving of a second school. If we are successful in our ongoing efforts to partner with government, **by 2022**, we could bring to fruition the second half of our 2007 plan for the Sage Creek community by opening the doors to a second school in the Sage Creek community.

Our commitment is to continue to provide regular updates to the École Sage Creek School community and encourage open dialogue as we learn more about our ongoing efforts to

- address **significant** growth and overcrowding at the school, and
- advocate for a second school to be built in the Sage Creek Community in the shortest achievable timeline (**by 2022**).

Should you have any questions about the information provided in this Community Update, please

- [email](#) the Board Office or call at (204) 257-7827
- [email](#) M. Poirier or call him at (204) 253-8199.

Sincerely,



Christian Michalik
Acting Superintendent of Schools
Division Scolaire Louis Riel School Division